

Resolution
City of Portland, Tennessee
No. 23 - 10

**A RESOLUTION TO PURSUE PLACEMENT OF A SAFE HAVEN BABY BOX INSIDE
A CITY FIRE HALL**

WHEREAS, In 2001 the Tennessee General Assembly approved legislation to provide a system through which parents may safely relinquish custody of unwanted newborns with certain protections provided for those relinquishing a child, as well as for those who may adopt the child; and

WHEREAS, Since passage of the legislation, over 100 babies have been safely surrendered into the care of others; and

WHEREAS, The law allows for unharmed newborns, 14 days old or younger, to be dropped off at facilities with 24-hour staffing, such as fire stations, using a drop-off box described as a *Safe Haven Baby Box*; and

WHEREAS, An evaluation of location, accessibility, cost, and function will first be necessary to provide accurate information before moving forward with placement of a *Safe Haven Baby Box* drop-off point within the City of Portland; and

NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED BY THE CITY COUNCIL OF THE CITY OF PORTLAND, TENNESSEE, That city staff review and gather all information and requirements needed to acquire and install a new-born drop-off point as described above within the City and submit a report to the City Council.

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED that this Resolution shall become effective upon its passage, the public welfare requiring it.

Mike Callis, Mayor

Patricia Keen, City Recorder

Approved this the 6th day of February, 2023